

# Minnesota State University Moorhead

## PARA 420: Criminal Litigation

### A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: 3

Lab Hours/Week: 0

OJT Hours/Week: \*.\*

Prerequisites:

This course requires the following prerequisite  
PARA 251 - Legal Research and Writing

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: None

A practice-oriented study of the procedures, documents, and techniques in criminal law cases. Emphasis on the preparation, organization, and management of criminal litigation documents and materials; discovery; interviewing and investigation; trial preparation; assistance at trial and other proceedings; and post-conviction relief.

**B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES:** 03/09/2005 - Present

### C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Foundations of Criminal Law
2. Administration of Criminal Justice and the Role of The Paralegal
3. Components of a Crime
4. Specific Crimes
5. Defenses
6. Intake and Drafting the Complaint
7. Search and Seizure
8. Confessions and Pretrial Identification Procedures
9. Pretrial: Appearance to Preliminary Hearing
10. Pretrial: Grand Jury to Pretrial Conference
11. Trial: Rights, Procedure, Tasks
12. Sentencing, Punishment and Review

### D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. A practice-oriented study of substantive criminal law, procedures, documents, and techniques.
2. Emphasis on the preparation, organization, and management of criminal litigation documents and materials; discovery; interviewing and investigation; trial preparation; assistance at trial and other proceedings; and post-conviction relief
3. To understand the structure of the criminal legal system, the processing of a criminal case from initial appearance to appeal, and the underlying substantive legal principles which impact criminal cases.

### E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

None

**F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT**

As noted on course syllabus

**G. SPECIAL INFORMATION**

None noted